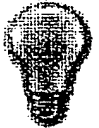Exhibit A

Disclosure AUS8-2001-0070
Prepared for and/or by an IBM Attorney - IBM Confidential

Required fields are marked with the asterisk (*) and must be filled in to complete the form .

*Title of disclosure (in English)

Instant Messaging(#3 of a series): Automated notification of client details such as Battery level, Signal strength and charges in wireless communications.

Summary

Submitted Date	01/15/2001 05:36:09 PM EST
Owning Division	NCS
Incentive Program	
Lab	
Technology Code	
PVT Score	No PVT score has been calculated.To calculate a PVT score, press the 'Calculate' button.

Inventors with Lotus Notes IDs

Inventors: Michael Paolini/Austin/IBM, Rabindranath Dutta/Tivoli Systems, Mike Brown/Austin/IBM

Inventor Name	
> Paolini, Michael	
Dutta, Rabindranath	
Brown, M.W. (Mike)	

> denotes primary contact

Inventors without Lotus Notes IDs

IDT Selection

*Main Idea
1. Describe your invention, stating the problem solved (if appropriate), and indicating the advantages of using the invention.
Problem

In instant messaging sessions conducted over wireless networks communications get cut off very often because of signal strength, battery rundown etc. By instant messaging, for the purposes of this disclosure we mean voice, text, video or any other type of communication conducted between a plurality of parties. It is often disconcerting to the participants, particularly in a multiple participant instant messaging session when one participant just fades out. As people converse from mobile devices such interruptions will occur more and more often.

Hence the problem is the following:
How to provide a warning of the impending telecommunications cutoff?

Solution
Our invention would provide the following information (under both sender and recipient control) to other parties during the course of a mobile instant messaging session:
1. Battery level remaining
2. Signal Strength
3. (optional) approximate charges being accrued per minute
4. GPS location (there may be some prior art in this feature taken in isolation)

Of course the sender may be able to disable/enable any and all of these options. The receiver may also be able to turn off constant notification of these options.

In case such notification is provided a recipient may often feel less aggravated or worried (for example a parent talking to a young child) when a conversation gets cut off in the middle.

In prior art, caller ID parameters and personalized ring tone parameters are the few elements that are transmitted automatically. The number of bytes of data to be sent is minimal in such schemes.

Claim

Method to provide improved instant messaging participant information comprising the following:

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sending information related to possible disconnection to a recipient;
limiting the amount of information that can be sent;
limiting the amount of information that can be shown at a client.

The method of claim 1 where the information related to possible disconnection is the remaining battery level.
similar dependent claims on signal strength, approximate charges, GPS location etc.

2. How does the invention solve the problem or achieve an advantage,(a description of "the invention", including figures inline as appropriate)?

3. If the same advantage or problem has been identified by others (inside/outside IBM), how have those others solved it and does your solution differ and why is it better?

4. If the invention is implemented in a product or prototype, include technical details, purpose, disclosure details to others and the date of that implementation.

*Critical Questions (Questions 1-9 must be answered)

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*Question 1
On what date was the invention workable? ███████ **Please format the date as MM/DD/YYYY**
(Workable means i.e. when you know that your design will solve the problem)

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